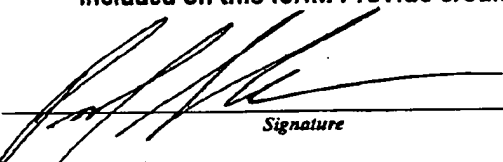
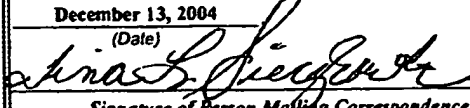


PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) (Large Entity)		Docket No. 920522-905338	
In Re: Application of Wilmert De Bosscher			
Application No. 09/720,744	Filing Date June 11, 2001	Examiner Aaron M. Dunwoody	Customer No. 23644
		Group Art Unit 3679	Confirmation No. 5005
Invention: VACUUM TIGHT COUPLING FOR TUBE SECTIONS			
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:			
This is a request under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a response to the Office Action of <u>July 12, 2004</u> above-identified application. <small style="margin-left: 100px;">Date</small>			
The requested extension is as follows (check time period desired): <input type="checkbox"/> One month <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two months <input type="checkbox"/> Three months <input type="checkbox"/> Four months <input type="checkbox"/> Five months			
from: <u>October 12, 2004</u> <small style="margin-left: 100px;">Date</small>		until: <u>December 12, 2004</u> <small style="margin-left: 100px;">Date</small>	
The fee for the extension of time is \$450 and is to be paid as follows:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 12-0913 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor and charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 12-0913 <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.			
WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.			
 Signature		Dated: <u>12/13/04</u>	
Peter J. Shakula Registration No. 40, 808 Barnes & Thornburg P.O. Box 2786 Chicago, IL 60690		I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on <u>December 13, 2004</u> <small>(Date)</small>  Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence Tina L. Styczkowski Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence	

2/20/2004 RNDDAF1 00000082 09720744
2 FC:1252 450.00 DP
CC: